

Serial number: 09/966,453

REMARKS

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 to 4 and 8 as being unpatentable over Heller US 3,399,173. In some embodiments, Heller discloses a styrenic or a maleimide end group, with a direct bond or an amide linking group as the L or L' entity. Applicant has amended the claims to delete the recitation that the L linking group can be a direct bond or an amide group, obviating the rejection based on Heller.

The Examiner has rejected claims, 1, 4, and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over US patent No. 4,996,326, issued to Leppard et al. Applicant takes the position that the compounds of Leppard are not anticipatory. The instant claims recite specific functionalities for E and E'. [An electron donor (E or E') group is a carbon-carbon double bond adjacent to an electron-rich group. Examples of electron donors are vinyl ethers, vinyl silanes, cinnamyl, and styrene moieties. An electron acceptor (E or E') group is also a carbon-carbon double bond, but in this case adjacent to an electron-withdrawing group. Examples of electron acceptors are fumarates, maleates, and maleimides.] Leppard does not teach that these specific functionalities [an electron donor or acceptor] are attached at the end of R¹ or R².

Applicant requests that the Examiner remove the rejections on these grounds and allow this application to issue.

end of remarks